

# FURTHER RECORDS OF LIZARDS AND FROGS FROM KANGAROO ISLAND

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SOME reptiles and amphibians were collected by the members of the Tate Society, University of Adelaide, during an expedition to Flinders Chase, Kangaroo Island, in January, 1940, under the leadership of Dr. C. T. Madigan. In addition to some species previously recorded from this region by Waite (1927), five forms new to the locality, including two further geographical races, were collected. The parasitology of these specimens is being dealt with by Prof. T. Harvey Johnston and Miss P. Mawson.

## LACERTILIA.

### FAMILY GEKKONIDAE.

*GYMNODACTYLUS MILII* (Bory 1825).

*Phyllurus milii* Bory de St. Vincent, 1825, vii, p. 183, fig. 1.

Two specimens collected under rocks along Stunsail Boom River; the larger has the tail regenerating and measures 98 (81 + 17) mm. The smaller measures 103 (66 + 37) mm. Previously recorded by Waite.

### FAMILY SCINCIDAE.

*EGERNIA WHITEI* (Lacépède 1804).

*Scincus whitii* Lacépède 1804, iv, p. 192: Australia.

*Lygosoma moniligera* Dumeril and Bibron, 1839, v, p. 736: Australia.

In all six examples of this species were collected by the Tate Society. All are uniformly much darker below than the typical mainland forms. Two lack completely the characteristic dorsal black lines with pale brown spots, and present a dull brown appearance (No. R2160). They also differ from mainland individuals examined in that the parietals are completely separated by the interparietal, and there are no nuchal shields.

Tubb (1937) has recorded some colour variations of this skink on Lady Julia Percy Island, Victoria, and *whitei* is undoubtedly a very variable species. The Kangaroo Island specimens, however, both from the uniformly dark undersurface and other features, appear to constitute a distinct insular race, and it is proposed to separate them as follows:

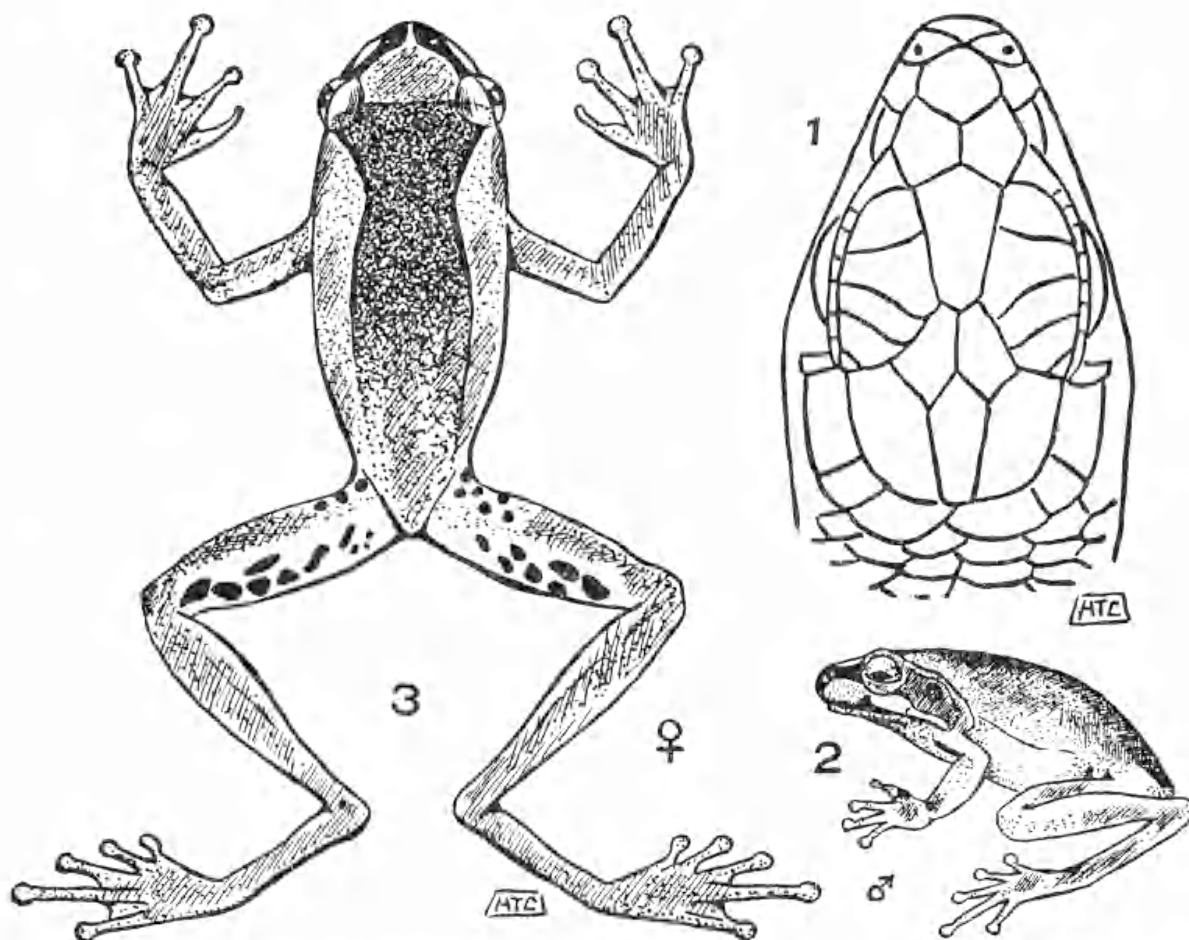
*EGERNIA WHITEI TENEBROSA* subsp. nov.

Description: Supranasals absent; eyelids well-developed; the lower eyelid scaly; prefrontals, frontoparietals and interparietal distinct; frontonasal widely separated from the frontal by the prefrontals which form a median suture; parietals completely separated by the interparietal which is nearly as large as the frontal; five supraoculars, the second the largest; 7-8 supraciliaries, the first greatly enlarged; three large temporals; no nuchals; 3-4 anterior lobules in the ear-

opening; 34-38 smooth mid-body scales; 22-28 lamellae beneath the fourth toe; the adpressed limbs overlap; undersurfaces dark slaty grey.

Type: S.A. Museum Collection no. R2161, a subadult from Flinders Chase, Kangaroo Island, South Australia, collected by members of the Tate Society, January, 1940.

Measurements of type: Total length 210 mm.; tail 125; snout to anus, 85; forelimb 24; hindlimb 29.



Figs. 1-3. 1. Head of *Egeria whitel tenebrosa*, subsp. nov., S.A. Museum Collection No. R 2161, locality Kangaroo Island. 2. *Hyla jervisiensis*, Dumeril and Bibron, male, R 2071, locality Woodside, South Australia. 3. *Ditto*, female, R 2166, locality Rocky River, Kangaroo Island.

Remarks: This insular race is at once distinguished by being generally darker above and below, the characteristic dorsal markings being obscured or even absent, while the scalation also differs. Although this skink may grow to a length of 350 mm. (12 inches) or more, it is better known as a much smaller reptile, when in a general way it resembles members of the *Sphenomorphus* Section of *Lygosoma*; it may be recognized at once, however, by the characters of the head shields.

#### LYGOSOMA Hardw. and Gray.

##### SECTION LEIOLOPISMA Dumeril and Bibron.

- Tridactylus* (not of Latreille 1802) Cuvier, 1829, p. 64 (type *decrensiensis*).  
*Tetradactylus* (not of Merrem 1820) Cuvier, *supra cit.*, p. 64 (type *decrensiensis*).  
*Peromelis* Wagler, 1830, p. 160 (substitute name for *Tetradactylus* Cuvier).